



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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June 9, 2006

Ms. Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Re: *NSTAR Gas*, D.T.E. 05-36

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

During the procedural conference the Department conducted on June 24, 2005 in *NSTAR Gas*, D.T.E. 05-36, the hearing officer ruled, *sua sponte*, that the Attorney General did not have the right, pursuant to G.L. 12, § 11E, to intervene in this matter. On July 1, 2005, the Attorney General filed a timely appeal of this ruling to the full Commission requesting that it review the hearing officer's ruling and recognize that the Attorney General intervenes in this matter as a full party as is his right pursuant to G.L. 12, §11E. No party opposed the Attorney General's appeal.

Although the appeal was filed almost one year ago, the Commission has yet to rule on this issue. This case involves significant issues involving service quality and the Company's maintenance program which directly affect the safety and service provided to customers and the rates NSTAR is permitted to charge customers for that utility service. Public interest demands prompt action on this long-pending matter and the Commission should rule on it without further delay.

Sincerely,

Colleen McConnell
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Shaela McNulty Collins, Hearing Officer
Service List, D.T.E. 05-36
William Stevens, Assistant General Counsel, D.T.E. Pipeline Engineering and Safety
Division